

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Applicant amends claims 1, 7-8, 12-13, and 15-16 for further clarification. No new matter has been added.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claim 11 contains allowable subject matter. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 7, from which claim 11 depends, is patentable over the reference cited against it, as demonstrated below, and, accordingly, requests that the Examiner allow claim 11.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by "Mobile IP" by Perkins; claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perkins in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,987,771 to Shimizu et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,839,323 to Foti; claims 6, 10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perkins in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0133598 to Strahm et al. Applicant amends claims 1, 7-8, 12-13, and 15-16 in a good faith effort to further clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited references, and respectfully traverses the rejections.

Perkins, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, describe a "Mobile IP" technique where a mobile node obtains a care-of address on a foreign network when it moves away from home, and/or registers each new care-of address with its home agent when it is away from home. The Examiner apparently relied upon the description in Perkin of the home address as alleged disclosure of the claimed first address with respect to a first session, and the description in Perkins of the care-of address of a foreign agent as alleged disclosure of the claimed second address with respect to a second session. Thus, the Examiner apparently relied upon the description in Perkins of a mobile node "[moving] away from home" as alleged disclosure of the claimed switching features. Page 3, right column, lines 25-40 of Perkins. Perkins only describes, however, a mobile node moving to a foreign network away

from home, and then obtaining and/or registering new care-of addresses in connection with the foreign network with its home agent. And Perkins, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, therefore, fails disclose a session manager storing first and second sessions before switching.

In other words, Perkins, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, fails to disclose,

“[a] server disposed in a packet network to repeat a packet between a first terminal and a second terminal, the server comprising:

a session managing unit storing a first address of said first terminal assigned to a first session representing a first connection status between said server and said first terminal and a second address of said first terminal assigned to a second session representing a second connection status between said server and said first terminal;

a receiving unit receiving a packet containing user data from said second terminal;

a switching unit switching from said first session having said first address as a destination to said second session having said second address as the destination on the basis of said addresses stored in said session managing unit; and

a transmitting unit transmitting said packet using said second session switched by said switching unit, wherein said session managing unit stores said first session and said second session before said switching.” as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, together with claims 3 and 5 dependent therefrom, is patentable over Perkins for at least the above-stated reasons. Claims 7-8, 13, and 15-16 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and are, therefore, together with claims 9 and 14 dependent therefrom, respectively, patentable over Perkins for at least the same reasons. The Examiner cited Shimizu et al., Foti, and Strahm et al. as combining references to specifically address the additional features recited in claims 2, 4, 6, 10, and 12, respectively. As such, combinations with Shimizu et al., Foti, and Strahm et al. would still have failed to cure the above-described deficiencies of Perkins. Claims 2, 4, and 6 depend from claim 1, claim 10 depends from claim 7, and claim 12

incorporates features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 4, 6, 10, and 12 are patentable over the cited references for at least the above-stated reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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